

OFFICIAL RED TAPE

How Cuban Relief Work is Halted by Spanish Officials.

STATEMENT BY A RED CROSS OFFICER

Explains Much-Talked-About Case of Alleged Emuggling.

CHEAP BAUBLES CONSIGNED TO GEN. LEE

Package of Stuff Mixed Up with the Relief Supplies.

CUSTOMS OFFICIALS ARE VERY OBNOXIOUS

Apparently Exert Themselves to Place Obstacles in the Way of Saving Reconvertados from Starvation.

(Copyright, 1898, by Press Publishing Company.) HAVANA (Via Key West), March 10.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—With respect to attacks on the Red Cross society, charging that attempts are made to smuggle articles not intended to relieve distress, the officers of the society make the following statement:

"The great cry raised by the Spaniards is not warranted by the facts in the case. The intriguers took up the matter, claiming that a huge scheme of smuggling was under way and urging through Madrid the expulsion of the Red Cross members. Weyler's Havana organ, El Correo, was especially against the further distribution of relief supplies. This paper is also the organ of the wholesale and retail merchants, who claim that they suffer considerably through loss of trade. This argument is difficult to defend, as the recipients of charity could not buy goods, being without means or prospect of earning money.

"A box which arrived on the Segurana came numbered numerous similar packages containing relief articles. All were sent to warehouses at San Jose awaiting customs house inspection and delivered to the Red Cross agents. The box in question was marked, 'Consul General Lee, Havana, for Mrs. Manuel F. Fernandez Calzadilla de Sayano Jesus del Monte.' It was selected by the customs officer for inspection, having a suspicious address. It was opened and the contents proved to be six boxes containing twelve bottles each of Japanese gold paint. There were about three dozen cards of common brass, gold-washed collar buttons, twenty-five buttons, twenty-five cheap gold-washed rings tied in dozens and wrapped in tissue paper similar to the variety commonly hawked by street sellers. This was the entire contents of the famous box, although the Spaniards found diamonds and other articles of great value. Some one had placed it on board the steamer while in New York in care of the purser for delivery to General Lee, notifying friends by letter of its remission, but in discharging the cargo all the boxes billed to Lee had been piled together with the Red Cross stuff. At the consulate Mr. Springer told me the affair had no importance whatever. He said that people often send packages in care of the consul for friends, hoping to escape duty, but that in all such cases where articles placed in the custom house in courtesy to Lee, they are immediately shipped to the port of departure."

LOTS OF RED TAPE. I visited the warehouse at San Jose this morning and found government inspectors and a large number of clerks opening boxes for inspection. I first visited the customs house to request data on the subject. I was informed by the second collector to proceed to the warehouse, where the inspectors had placed to give all the information at hand. The inspector referred me to a subinspector as the highest in authority, but his uniform belied him, so I told him he was the man I wanted to see by order of the collector. But he wriggled out by introducing me to a second, who promised to furnish me all information in three hours. While there he informed me that packages were sent in a very disorderly manner, making inspection very difficult and tedious. He called attention to several boxes opened, showing the manner of packing goods. Old boots, shoes, soiled clothing, socks and other garments were mixed with rice, oatmeal, potatoes, bacon, ham and other provisions. He very naturally said that such packing was very unscientific and wasteful, as the food products were spoiled by contact with dirty clothes. He seemed to think it had duty of New York Red Cross officials to open every box, sort out all the different articles and repack them in separate packages and in this way relieve the arduous work of the Spanish custom house collectors. I tried to explain that each box was an individual contribution filled with whatever the donors could afford and then was sent to the Red Cross headquarters for remission here. If the Red Cross officials had to resort to the custom house for the benefit of Spanish customs authorities it would necessitate a large corps of laborers, whose pay would counterbalance the amount received for relief. He could not understand this argument. The scheme, so far as it seems to be concocted, is for the purpose of putting obstacles in the way of the progress of the relief work.

While I was in the warehouse at Red Cross officials desired to take out bags of rice for shipment to Jaruco, but he could not touch them until he secured a permit from the collector. The Spanish inspectors are very suspicious. When they find any article unknown to them, such as bottles of delicacies, they are placed one side as being of a suspicious character.

SYLVESTER SCOVEL.

SITUATION GROWS MORE STRIOUS.

Bianco Seems to Be Losing His Grip in Havana.

(Copyright, 1898, by Press Publishing Company.) HAVANA (Via Key West), March 10.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—The situation is growing more and more serious. The police are arresting men whom Weyler had banished and Blanco pardoned. The government censor is almost halting the local press by red-penciling and cutting out inflammatory articles. The conservative as well as the sensational dailies here are yielding to public clamor for action against "aggression," as it is called. General Blanco is doing his best to stem the tide of public anti-American sentiment, but two big Spanish war ships about and one American war ship sunk in Havana bay are having an influence which is growing daily.

Working Overtime at Arsenal.

ROCK ISLAND, Ill., March 10.—Acting Commandant O. B. Mitchell of Rock Island Arsenal has received orders to put men on the arsenal on ten-hour time and to call a night shift at once. This will swell the forces in the shops here to 1,000 men. Captain S. E. Blunt, commandant at

IN NO HURRY TO BUY SHIPS

Navy Department Will Not Be Rushed in Purchasing Vessels.

INSISTS PRICES MUST BE REASONABLE

Secretary Long Will Not Permit Exaggeration of the Occasion to Force Him into Making Any Bad Bargains.

WASHINGTON, March 10.—The United States government has not as yet acquired a single additional ship for the navy. This is true, not because of a lack of offers of war ships from abroad, but simply for the reason that the Navy department is proceeding with all the circumspection consistent with the needs of the case in looking after the qualities and prices of the craft. There is a strong disposition to refrain from being drawn into bad bargains and to insist upon getting good vessels at prices not extortionate.

Secretary Long was in receipt of a large number of cablegrams today, almost all relating to offers of ships. Lieutenant Niblack, naval attaché at Berlin, St. Petersburg and Vienna, is particularly active in the quest for vessels. There was a good deal of talk during the day about assignment of officers to command of the auxiliary cruisers, the St. Paul and St. Louis being especially mentioned, but Secretary Long set these stories at rest by the statement that he had not made any such assignments, and had only progressed to the point of informing himself of the possibility of getting the ships offered and manned quickly.

While looking after new ships the officials of the Navy department are not neglecting the old vessels, and arrangements have been made to make short repairs on several ships, that in the ordinary course would not be treated in that fashion, but would receive a thorough and time-consuming overhauling. Thus in the case of the Philadelphia, which has had five years' hard work, and has never yet been done over as is the custom, orders have gone to Mare Island to put the ship in shape for sea within forty days.

The Yorktown, at the same yards, is not to be touched at present, not only because it is in fair condition, but also because it is so formidable a craft as to make it desirable to divert to it repair attention required elsewhere.

NEWARK ALMOST NEW.

At Norfolk the Newark is set down for thirty days' repairs, and as a good deal of work has already been done on it it will be almost a new ship when it comes out of the yard. The big monitor, Puritan, has practically completed its repairs. The monitor, Comanche, at Mare Island, has been examined and found in tolerable condition. At League Island the monitor Miantonomah and the ram Katahdin went into commission today, although they have not had their orders. They will probably remain in the Delaware river, or drop down into the bay.

The torpedo boat Dupont sailed from Mobile to attach itself to the flotilla at Key West.

Again it was said at the Navy department that nothing had been heard from the court of inquiry at Havana, nor from Admiral Sigsbee at Key West. The presence in the city of persons connected with steamship lines and steel works led to the circulation of a number of sensational stories during the day, but perhaps none of these had the persistency of one that found currency at the capital until it met a denial at the hands of Assistant Secretary Day, to the effect that Minister Woodford had notified the Spanish government that the president intended to send a grogrous message recognizing Cuban independence.

Commander Hawley left Washington this evening for the south with Chief Engineer Webster and Surgeon Parsons to enlist machinists for the navy. During the day the board changed its plans and finally started direct for New Orleans. It has been informed that there are a number of good men to be had on the gulf coast, and Commander Hawley will open temporary recruiting offices in the gulf cities as he goes along, just as was done by him in the west last summer.

NAVAL CONFERENCE HELD.

A conference was held at 3 o'clock in the office of Assistant Secretary Roosevelt to map out plans for arming and equipping merchant vessels as auxiliary cruisers. Mr. Roosevelt presided and others present were Captain Croninshield of the Bureau of Navigation, Captain O'Neal of the Bureau of Ordnance, Chief Hitchcock of the Bureau of Construction and Commander Bradford of the Bureau of Yards and Docks. This meeting had been preceded by a call from President Griscom of the International Navigation company, which owns the four ships, St. Louis, St. Paul, Paris and New York.

The board meeting brought out a general discussion of the work the various bureaus could be called upon to do, and that the most other vessels ready as auxiliary cruisers. About 95 per cent of this work would fall to the lot of the Bureau of Construction, which would have charge of installing magazines, gun mounts, light protective armor for the guns and magazines, and the circles on which the guns swing. This work, it is said, could be accomplished readily within two weeks' time, as all materials except the guns are on hand.

The Bureau of Ordnance could not supply plans which show above the wreck, which are bottom plates of the Maine.

The court requested Naval Constructor Hooper to take soundings on both sides and outside of the wreck and he is now at work doing so. Stenographer Bissell, who has been with the court since it started its investigation, has been sent to Washington. This is deemed advisable, as the testimony now being taken by the court is entirely that of experts and divers, and as there is only a small amount of testimony daily the president of the court, Captain Sampson, has decided to have his ship's writer, Bissell of Iowa, act as stenographer of the court.

SYLVESTER SCOVEL.

LEEDY CRITICIZES HARLAN

He is Displeased with the Maximum Rate Case Decision.

VIGOROUSLY ARRANGS SUPREME COURT

GOVERNOR OF KANSAS SHOWS AN ADDRESS IN WHICH HE SHOWS THE INCONSISTENCIES OF THE HIGHEST COURT IN THE LAND.

TOPSICA, Kan., March 10.—The populist administration of the state of Kansas gave out a startling statement today, one bristling with criticism of the decision of the United States supreme court in the Nebraska maximum freight rate case.

The address is particularly significant in that Governor Leedy has already taken steps preliminary to the calling of the state legislature in special session, with the special purpose of enacting a maximum freight rate law.

While the address is given out over the signature of Governor Leedy, it had first been approved by Chief Justice Dozier of the state supreme court, and other prominent populists.

In giving the address to the reporters Governor Leedy said: "How long do you suppose a man can write treason like this without getting into jail? You may put my signature to it and make it a signed statement, so that if anybody goes to jail it will be me."

The governor begins his address with the statement that for a year the press dispatches have said that the opinion in the Nebraska case would be adverse to the state. Then he says: "The opinion has been handed down and the Associated Press dispatches say that it is a clean victory for the railroads. On the contrary, it is an unequal victory in every respect of the case, showing that no matter how cunning the robes of justice are folded about the personnel of the supreme court, these robes can no longer conceal the cloven hoof of official malfeasance and usurpation."

His decision was due a year ago and as there was no known reason for the delay, and as the decision as rendered confirms the statements made in the Associated Press dispatches from time to time, the governor is glad to see that the press dispatches emanated from some person in touch with the court and were for the purpose of feeling the pulse of the public and preparing it for the decision which goes much further in the direction of usurping power than any that has yet been made.

CORPORATIONS NOT PERSONS. The governor then declares that the constitution of Nebraska gives the legislature power to establish maximum charges for transportation and declares that the supreme court has tried to abrogate it. He challenges Justice Harlan's declaration that a corporation is a person under the fourteenth amendment to the constitution, and says: "I deny it, and so will everybody but a corporation lawyer or a subservient judicial tool of corporate interests."

Governor Leedy then quotes the fourteenth amendment and says: "How in the name of God can it give to a corporation the rights of a person? Corporations are not born, they are created—made by law. They cannot be naturalized, they can take no oath of allegiance. Only human beings can do that."

After more in the same strain the governor, still referring to the fourteenth amendment, says: "Who are the persons who shall not, according to these provisions, be deprived of life, liberty or property, or be denied equal legal protection? Everybody outside the asylum and off the federal judicial bench knows them to be—and to only be—natural persons. They are the men and women who, by their capacity to hold property and enjoy legal protection, also have life and can enjoy liberty, and that means human beings."

Continuing, Governor Leedy quotes Harlan on American constitutional law and a demagogue by Justice Woods of the United States circuit court, who, besides the law, Justice, to prove that the fourteenth amendment does not refer to corporations and declares that the Woods decision had been followed in California, Rhode Island and other states from 1870 to 1882, "when Justice Field and another federal justice of the peace named Sawyer decided the other way and since then, whenever a corporation starts out to commit highway robbery, pick a man's pocket or loot a public treasury, it disfigures itself as a person and goes out on its mission of plunder."

HIDEOUS DISTORTION. "Nobody but a slave or a knave will yield assent to the hideous distortion of meaning which Judge Harlan gives to the word 'person' as used in the fourteenth amendment and upon which he bottoms his infamous decision and which shows to what depth of iniquity the supreme court of the United States has descended."

"I desire," the governor continues, "to quote some of the opinions of the supreme court of the United States before it went into partnership with Morgan, Vanderbilt, Gould & Co., as to the opinion they hold in the Nebraska case."

Long declaims by Justice John Marshall are quoted. In conclusion Governor Leedy says his maximum rate bill will be presented to the Kansas legislature in such a shape that to decide against it the court must reverse its decision in the Nebraska case and he adds: "If the court still pursues the corrupt and rotten practice that it has heretofore, by changing its decisions to suit the shifting interests of the railroad corporations, the remedy will be with the people in their dealings with the courts or in building railroads of their own."

Tug and Derrick Off for Havana.

CHARLESTON, S. C., March 10.—The tug Underwriter, with the big derrick Chief, left this port this morning and continued its voyage to Havana. It put in here for repairs several days ago.

Movements of Ocean Vessels, Mar. 10.

At Amsterdam—Sailed—Edam, for New York.

At Marseilles—Arrived—Burgundia, from New York.

At Copenhagen—Arrived—Island, from New York.

At London—Sailed—Mobile, for New York.

At Queenstown—Sailed—Majestic, for New York.

At Genoa—Sailed—Fulda, for New York.

At Antwerp—Sailed—Majestic, for New York.

At Havre—Arrived—La Bretagne, from New York.

At Copenhagen—Sailed—Hekla, for New York.

At Liverpool—Sailed—Waesland, for Philadelphia.

At Bremen—Arrived—Trave, from New York.

At Naples—Arrived—Ems, from New York.

THE BEE BUZZING

Weather Forecast for Next 24 Hours.

1. Spaniards Hinder Cuban Relief Work.

2. House Bills Free.

3. Nebraska News.

4. Editorial and Comments.

5. Coast Rates All Gone to Pieces.

6. Council Bluffs Local Matters.

7. Iowa Legislative Proceedings.

8. General News of the Farther West.

9. Camera Fiends Have Their Troubles.

10. In the Field of Electricity.

11. Commercial and Financial News.

12. New and Old Army Uniforms.

Trials of Freak Fighters.

Temperature at Omaha:

Hour. Bar. Wind. Direction. Deg.

5 a. m. 30.1 2 p. m. 41

6 a. m. 29.9 3 p. m. 40

7 a. m. 29.8 4 p. m. 38

8 a. m. 29.7 5 p. m. 36

9 a. m. 29.6 6 p. m. 34

10 a. m. 29.5 7 p. m. 33

11 a. m. 29.4 8 p. m. 32

12 m. 29.3 9 p. m. 30

Forecasters Welch says that the conditions point to no great change in temperature, but that the snow bids fair to be quite heavy and will extend over the lower Missouri valley and probably to the Mississippi valley, Nebraska, South Dakota and Wyoming have had snow within the last twenty-four hours, and much snow will fall in northern Missouri, western and southern Iowa, northern Kansas and eastern Nebraska.

GEORGIA AND ITS PINE BUILDING.

Lumbermen Will Contribute Material to Construct It.

ATLANTA, Ga., March 10.—(Special Telegram.)—The lumbermen of Georgia will donate the material to be used in the construction of the building for the state exhibit at the Omaha exposition.

C. T. Harmon, one of the most active members of the commission, will leave for Omaha this week and while there will select the site for the building and award the contract for its construction. Mr. Harmon and ex-Governor Northen have just returned from a trip to Tifton, where they appeared before the meeting of the Lumbermen's association. The result was a representation of the day's work yet accomplished by the commission, inasmuch as the association agreed to furnish free of cost all the lumber needed in the construction of the Georgia building. The building will be a pine palace and one of the most beautiful at the exposition.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., March 10.—(Special Telegram.)—Secretary Carroll of the Missouri Exposition commission today issued a statement in which he said that the state exhibit at the Omaha exposition will be "Missouri can and will show the finest milks, saddle horses, beef and dairy cattle and hogs of any state in the union. Missouri will exhibit as fine cotton as the world produces. Our corn pyramid will contain 500 bushels made up of specimens from every county in the state. Our wheat, oats and flax will rival America's best, and our tobacco will challenge for superiority Kentucky's premium white barley. The Missouri exhibit will be a masterpiece of the whole world. Missouri's exhibits of lead and zinc will be superior in merit and extent to those of any other state or nation. Our exhibits of red granite, limestone, gray and red sandstone will rank with the finest. We will display the best hard pine in America and will supplement it with a magnificent collection of our forestry productions. Our exhibits of manufactures now contracted exceed in number and variety any display of that character at the World's fair."

CANAL WORK IS SATISFACTORY.

Nicaragua Commissioners Pleased with the Results Obtained.

(Correspondence of the Associated Press.) SAN CARLOS, Nicaragua, Feb. 15.—The Nicaragua canal commissioners passed through here yesterday on their return to Greytown from their tour of inspection on the eastern end of the lake. The progress of the progress of the commission work in that section is favorable. Everything is going forward in a satisfactory manner and it is probable the party under J. G. W. Walker will have finished its labors in about three months.

The commissioners were greatly pleased with the fine result of the hydrographic survey of the eastern end of Lake Nicaragua, which has just been completed by Lieutenant Hannu, U. S. N., and his party of naval officers and enlisted men of the navy.

In addition to the soundings, Mr. Hannu went extensively into the boring business, thereby saving the commission considerable expense. All the results of his work are favorable to the canal. No dredging will be necessary at any point more distant from the San Juan river than eleven miles and the borings show the dredging in this limit will be easy. The work in the Sanguan river has already commenced and at the end of this week the hydrographic party will move down the river to a new camp, which is even now in process of construction.

The disturbed condition of the country has interfered somewhat with the commissioner's work. Mr. Walker was arrested as a rebel the other day at Rivas, but was released very soon with profuse apologies on the part of the government. There has been fighting at Rivas, but at San Carlos and in the immediate neighborhood there have been nothing more than alarms.

Will Appear in Sullivan's New Opera.

(Copyright, 1898, by Press Publishing Company.) LONDON, March 10.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—George De Vol of Boston and Edwin Isham of New York, the two singers whose presence in London has given rise to much surmise, have today signed a definite contract for appearance in Sullivan's opera, which from the little that is as yet known of it, promises to be the musical feature of the coming season. Should Sullivan's health be spared it is anticipated that the piece will be produced about the middle of May.

POULTNEY BIGELOW.

Movements of the Fleet.

KEY WEST, Fla., March 10.—The United States dispatch boat Fern arrived here this morning from Havana. The United States battleship Iowa has sailed for the Tortugas.

The torpedo boat Porter has also sailed for the Tortugas with mail for the fleet. The United States cruiser Marblehead has sailed for Tortugas in order to distribute ammunition to the fleet.

SPAIN IS EXCITED

Prompt Action of American Congress Causes Consternation.

PRESS IS ANXIOUS AND DISPLEASED

Calls Upon Government to Prepare for Emergencies.

CRUISER MONTGOMERY CAUSES A RIPPLE

Its Presence at Havana is Unfavorably Commented Upon.

WAVE OF EUROPEAN SYMPATHY FOR SPAIN

Does Not Great Store on This Phase of the Situation—Rumors of Rupture in Cabinet Unfounded.

(Copyright, 1898, by Press Publishing Company.) MADRID, March 10.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—A profound consternation has been caused in Madrid by the rapid, unanimous passage by the American congress of a bill making an extraordinary appropriation for the purchase of the United States cruiser Montgomery.

These two events are much discussed in political, diplomatic and official quarters. The tone of press comments thereon betrays anxiety and displeasure, but the majority of the newspapers recommend prudence and self-possession, at the same time calling upon the government to be prepared for any emergency.

Both the public and the press claim to get great store by what they regard as a general wave of sympathy for Spain in the European press. Much importance is attached to the latest council of ministers. It is said to have been devoted chiefly to an examination of the more favorable intelligence forwarded by General Blanco about the destruction of the resources and the atrociousness of the rebellion in the eastern provinces and the active pursuit of banks by a combined movement of Spanish columns. But it is known that that council discussed at length the new aspect of Spain's relations with the United States. The ministers, however, have determined, "in the interest of peace," not to communicate to the press details of measures or propositions agreed upon. They simply say the council "was considered in relation to reserves in the present pacific and patriotic attitude."

There is no foundation for the rumors of a ministerial crisis and of the resignation of Senator Gullon, the minister of foreign affairs, though it is an open secret that he and the minister of colonies, Senor Monet, do not agree. The ministerial press denies that Senor Leon Castillo, the Spanish ambassador to France, who has come to Madrid, is not here to replace Senor Gullon in the cabinet, but to communicate to the queen regent and the government the impressions he has gathered from diplomatic and political sources and from high authorities in the French capital concerning the Cuban question in all its phases. The visit of Senor Leon Castillo to Madrid has a very distinct object of exceptional interest, if what is planned is realized, but on this the reserve of the government is great and perhaps the interests of the country impose all a duty respecting it. ARTHUR E. HOUGHTON.

ENGLAND'S SYMPATHIES WITH US.

Member of Parliament Comes Forward in an Emphatic Manner.

(Copyright, 1898, by Press Publishing Company.) LONDON, March 10.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—Hubert Duncombe, a conservative member of the House of Commons (representing the west division of Cumberland), has given notice that he would put this formal question to the government today in Parliament: "Whether, with a view to recognizing the identity of the interests of all English-speaking people, her majesty's government will consider the advisability of placing the salaries of the British and every ten British of the United States of America in the event of complications arising between them and any foreign power."

Much interest was felt in parliamentary circles in this remarkable suggestion, but when his turn came Mr. Duncombe did not put the question. I saw him in the lobby, immediately afterward and asked the reason. Mr. Duncombe answered: "On consideration I came to the conclusion that it might defeat the object I had in view. If the question were asked no minister could give a definite reply and an indefinite one might be misconstrued."

"Do you consider," I inquired, "that this suggested alliance with the United States is in keeping with the general sympathies of the English people?"

"As far as I have been able to judge," responded Mr. Duncombe, "it expresses the wishes of the right out of every ten Englishman. Any little disagreement we have with America are merely superficial, such as a former might have with a son. But when it comes to the United States being attacked, I believe all Englishmen would desire to help them, as we believe Americans would desire to assist us under like conditions. I think it would be a very salutary thing if the world knew that if any power that attacked the United States it will have to deal with both. I put down my question last evening without consultation with anybody and I only refrained from asking it because I thought it might not assist the object I had in view. But, mind you, I am firmly convinced that the sentiment expressed in that question accurately reflects the feeling of my countrymen toward the United States."

Mr. Duncombe is the third son of the late Sir Charles Duncombe, who was famous for his beauty. He is a member of the Tory "smart set," but is comparatively new to politics.

GOVERNMENT QUIETS WAR RUMORS.

Kept Busy Trying to Check Possibilities of Impressions.

(Copyright, 1898, by Press Publishing Company.) MADRID, March 10.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—The government has done nothing today but check pessimist impressions, evoked by all the Madrid press, even ministerial organs. After the council presided over by the queen the ministers stated that nothing new had occurred in the political or international questions to warrant the present feeling of distrust. On the contrary the Spanish legation at Washington had wired again a budget of pacific news. Nevertheless alarmist rumors per-